

## TERRITORY OF GUAM OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR AGAÑA, GUAM 96910 U.S.A.

## EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 92-3

## RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A GUAM CHRONIC DISEASE ADVISORY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, chronic diseases such as heart disease, cancer, diabetes, hypertension, have become the leading causes of morbidity and mortality of Guam;

WHEREAS, heart disease, the leading cause of death of Guam affects an estimated 20,000 people, causes an average of 116 deaths, and costs an estimated \$3 - \$4 million annually for treatment;

WHEREAS, cancer deaths rank as the second leading cause of death of Guam, and are 1.4 times higher than in the U.S.;

WHEREAS, the rate for cerebrovascular disease or stroke was over 2.4 times higher than the U.S. rate and ranks as the third leading cause of death on Guam;

WHEREAS, the death rate on Guam for diabetes mellitus is over 5 times higher than the U.S. rate and ranks as the fourth leading cause of death;

WHEREAS, chronic diseases affect not only the elderly, but also, the younger adult population who make up a significant part of the community workforce, and these illnesses lead to lost productivity; and

WHEREAS, more emphasis is needed on health education and physical fitness, both of which are proven means of promoting healthy lifestyles particularly if introduced in the early years;

WHEREAS, certain modifiable risk factors for chronic diseases can be changed or controlled through education and positive changes in high risk behavior and practice;

WHEREAS, a broad coalition is needed to achieve the common agenda of reducing risk factors associated with chronic diseases;

WHEREAS, a partnership among public and private organizations involved in chronic disease prevention and control is necessary to broaden the base and strengthen the organizational capacity of organizations concerned with chronic diseases;

WHEREAS, the Governor's conference on Health recognized chronic diseases as a major health problem and adopted the goal of reducing chronic disease mortality and morbidity as a priority goal for the year 2000 and beyond;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH F. ADA, Governor of the Territory of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, do hereby create the Guam Chronic Disease Advisory Council and order that:

Chronic Disease Advisory Council - Executive Order Page Two

- 1. Members of the **Guam Chronic Disease Advisory Council** shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor;
  - 2. The mission of the Council is to:
  - a. Assess the needs of the community and assist in setting priorities for action.
  - b. Develop a **Chronic Disease Prevention** strategic plan which includes health problems identification; problem analysis which incorporates the identification of risk factors, and direct and indirect contributing factors.
  - c. Propose actions to remedy risk factors, remove associated barriers to such remedies, and obtain resources which can contribute to the remedies.
  - d. Recommend priorities for all identified Chronic Disease Prevention and control problems.
  - e. Identify appropriate work teams which should coordinate efforts with respect to each chronic disease problem.
  - f. Promote and support reducing chronic disease problems to the community.
  - g. Submit an annual report containing findings, recommendations, and needed legislation to implement the **Chronic Disease Prevention Program.**
  - h. Consider any other issues, programs, or proposals that are appropriately related to the responsibilities of the Council.
  - i. Serve as a communications channel between the community and the Chronic Disease Prevention Program.
- 3. The Guam Chronic Disease Advisory Council shall serve as an advisory body to the Guam Chronic Disease Prevention and Control Program.
- 4. The Council shall consist of nine (9) members with representatives from various government agencies, voluntary organizations, private sector, and the community.
  - 5. The Governor shall appoint from among the membership a Chairperson.
- 6. The **Guam Chronic Disease Advisory Council** shall hold meetings at the call of the Chairperson.

Chronic Disease Advisory Council - Executive Order Page Three

7. The Council shall promulgate by-laws to govern their activities.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED AT AGANA, GUAM this \_24th day of January, 1992.

/oseph 7. ( JOSEPH F. ADA

Governor

**COUNTERSIGNED:** 

FRANK F. BLAS

Lieutenant Governor